

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6-10, 17, 19, and 20 are now pending in the application. Claims 21-24 are added by this amendment. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 6-10, 17, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Olds (U.S. Pat. No. 5,732,351) in view of Watanabe (U.S. Pat. No. 4,052,670). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Currently amended independent claim 1 recites "prioritizing of the multiple user terminals according to a selected criteria". In addition, independent claim 19 recites "accessing ... a priority listing of said user terminal". Neither Olds nor Watanabe disclose nor fairly suggest either singly or in combination prioritizing multiple user terminals or accessing a priority listing of the user terminals. Only the present application teaches accessing a prioritization listing for user terminals for use in interference management of a communications satellite. Moreover, newly added dependent Claims 21-24 recite the selected criteria for prioritization which is also not taught or suggested by Olds or Watanabe, or their combination.

Therefore, each of the independent claims include elements which are not taught nor fairly suggested by the art of record. Therefore, the Applicant believes that each of the independent claims 1 and 19 are in condition for allowance in addition to claims 6-

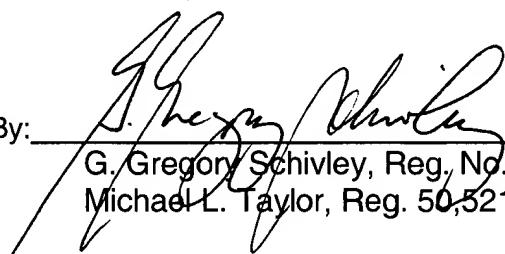
10, 17, 20-24 each of which depend either directly or indirectly from claims 1 and 19. Therefore, the Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw each of the rejections and allow each of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,
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